

back of the book of a catalogue of the works issued by the publisher, printed on the same paper as the body of the book. Far from being objectionable in itself the catalogue may often be very useful in rendering easily accessible a list of the other publications of the publisher of this work, but it should have been so arranged as not to interfere with the readiness with which the index can be consulted. There are several ways in which this might be accomplished, the most effective, perhaps, being the use for the catalogue of colored paper.

JAMES E. PILCHER.

THE PROCEEDINGS OF THE FOURTH ANNUAL MEETING OF THE ASSOCIATION OF MILITARY SURGEONS OF THE UNITED STATES. 8vo, 800 pages ; illustrated. St. Louis : Buxton & Skinner Stationery Co., 1894.

The fact that this large volume represents the work accomplished at a single annual meeting argues well for the activity of the Association of Military Surgeons. It will doubtless be a matter of surprise to many members of the medical profession that "in these piping times of peace" this especial department of medicine should be the scene of so much virile activity ; they will be interested too, for most of the papers here collated are valuable to students of history, of law, of mechanics, and even to the casual reader. All branches of the military service are represented, and the National Guard divides the honors with the "Regulars."

The first eighty pages are devoted to the secretary's report of the meeting held at Washington on the 1st, 2d, and 3d of May, 1894. Reports of committees, the discussion of the papers read, lists of officers, committees, and members, and the constitution and by-laws of the Association are included, so that the reader is able to form an excellent idea of the aims of the organization, and also of the members themselves.

Nearly two score of articles are published ; the standard of excellence is high, and most of the articles bear witness to extensive

original research. Attention can be especially directed to but a few articles from among so large a number. First of all in position and in general interest is the president's 'annual Address, "Abdominal Surgery upon the Battle-Field,"' by Nicholas Senn, Surgeon-General of the National Guard of Illinois. Dr. Senn requires no introduction to readers, and it goes without saying that his contribution, illustrated as it is with photographs and replete with practical suggestions, is a valuable one.

The first day was devoted to a symposium on transportation of the sick and wounded. An introductory article by Major Smart treats the subject from the stand-point of an historian. Following this the litter, the ambulance, the travois, the railway and ship hammock litter are each the subject of papers of value to any one who may be called upon to superintend the transportation of invalids in a place remote from the usual conveniences of civilization. As an addendum to this series Captain Perley describes an ingeniously devised "Field Hospital Kitchen Wagon" for the purpose of sterilizing dressings or of cooking food at the dressing stations or on the march.

Military medicine, surgery, and hygiene formed the general subjects for the second day's discussion. The article by Lieutenant-Colonel Almy upon "The Red Cross" is worthy of careful consideration by all classes of society. The Treaty of Geneva is given in full, and this will do something towards enlightening the ignorance so prevalent upon this subject, even among members of military organizations. The danger of the abuse of the insignia by unauthorized persons has been often dwelt upon by "that noble woman who has done more for the Red Cross than any one in America,—Clara Barton;"—and Dr. Almy vigorously supports her position. "It is bad enough to have a drug firm use our badge upon absorbent cotton and catgut ligatures and our 'mark on its medical stores,' or for a brand of beef extract to be apparently sanctioned by the red cross, but when it comes to Red Cross Cigars and Cigarettes, Red Cross Brandy and Whiskey, Red Cross Washing Machines, Red Cross Playing Cards, Red Cross Soap, Red Cross Churns, Red Cross Dog Collars, etc., it would seem

that it were time to stop the use of the cross as a trade-mark. Efforts have already been made to make this the subject of legal enactment, and the law should stand so that the 'Red Cross' may be a sign which will mean what it was intended that it should mean, and that under the folds of its flag will be found only those doing work in the interests of humanity, and hereafter the Red Cross shall not only protect but be protected."

Another subject of general interest to the inhabitants of those States which grant pensions to members of the National Guard who are injured in actual service is considered by Captain James E. Pilcher, under the title of "The Place of Physical Training in the Military service." The importance of a good physique is now generally recognized, and it is to be hoped that the author will supplement his paper at some future time by publishing specific and ample directions as to the best methods by which a high standard of physical development may be secured in large bodies of men.

"Pernicious Fever," "Penetrating Wounds of the Abdomen," "Gunshot Wounds of the Extremities," "The Germicidal Value of Trikresol," and "The Action of Rattlesnake Venom upon the Bactericidal Power of the Blood Serum" were the most important papers of the afternoon session.

Still more limited to military topics are the papers of the third day. The effects of the small-calibre rifle, and of that most deadly of all modern projectiles, the Frankfort Arsenal shrapnel, are described, and the influence of these new factors in warfare upon the field work of the hospital corps forms the basis of a number of papers. Two others are devoted to the personal equipment of the sanitary soldier, and the training of the medical officer. A series of five articles by Major John Van R. Hoff, U. S. A., describes the sanitary organization in the armies of France, Germany, Austro-Hungary, Great Britain, and the United States. Even more elaborate than these is the official report of the author's observations upon the Medical Department of the British Army, by Lieutenant-Colonel Alfred A. Woodhull, U. S. A. The last-mentioned paper was submitted to the Sec-

retary of War as a result of official orders, and the ripe personal experience of the writer combined with the unusual opportunities for observation afforded to him have aided in the production of the most extensive, complete, and accurate article presented at the meeting.

There is no table of contents, and this glaring defect, combined with the fact that the order in which the papers appear upon the programme is not adhered to in the book, seriously impairs the value of the volume as a means of reference. There is an index given, but this too is so meagre as to be of little assistance to the reader.

“ When war is rife, and danger nigh,  
‘ God and the soldier’ is the people’s cry ;  
When peace is made, and all things righted,  
God’s forgot, and the soldier slighted.”

No truer words were ever written than these of the rhyming soldier of Delhi, and particularly are they true of the medical department. In all grades of society we find a disposition to ignore the value of the medical profession until sickness or accident brings them into close and necessary contact with its members; then they are compelled to appreciate their value. If this be true in civil life, how much more so is it in the army, in times of peace, when no heed is ever given to the warning from military sanitarians to “prepare for war.” Major Hoff, from whose article this quotation is taken, appears to be something of a pessimist, for whatever may with justice be said of medical departments in general, no one, after reading this volume, including as it does the most recent advances in surgery and medicine, can believe that the dry rot of inanition is in any immediate danger of affecting the military surgeons of our own country.

H. P. DE FOREST (Brooklyn).

LOCAL ANÆSTHETICS AND COCAINE ANALGESIA; THEIR USES AND LIMITATIONS. By THOMAS H. MANLEY, A.M., M.D. New York: J. H. Chambers & Co., 1894.

In this work the author begins with observations upon anæsthetics in general and the various methods of inducing local analgesia. Part